

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 04467 191245 Z

45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8846

INFO AMCONGEN

AMCONGEN NHA TRANG

AMCONGEN BIEN HOA

AMCONGEN CAN THO

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: PINT VS

SUBJECT: INAUGURATION OF SAIGON CHAPTER OF DEMOCRACY PARTY

1. THE SAIGON CHAPTER OF THE DEMOCRACY PARTY WAS INAUGURATED MARCH 18 AT A LOCAL SPORTS STADIUM. SENATOR TRAN NGOC OANH CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAPTER, INTRODUCED MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER' S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, INCLUDING DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NGUYEN VAN DIEU (CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY COUNCIL) DOAN VAN BINCH (SECRETARY GENERAL AT CITY HALL) AND LAWYER HUYNH NGOC AN. ADVISORS TO THE CHAPTER INCLUDE SENATORS PHAM NHU PHIEN AND NGUYEN MANH BAO.

2. THE PRINCIPAL ADDRESS WAS DELIVERED BY HEALTH MINISTER TRAN MINH TUNG, A " FOUNDER" OF THE PARTY. TUNG ANNOUNED THAT IN ABOUT A WEEK REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL PROVINCIAL CHAPTERS WILL ATTEND A NATIONAL CONVENTION AT WHICH THE PARTY' S CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL BE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED.

3. THE MARCH 18 CEREMONY WAS ATTENDED BY A LIMITED NUMBER OF RELIGIONS AND POLITICAL FIGURES INCLUDING THE MAYOR OF SAIGON, SENATOR DANG VAN SUNG, MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND LEADERS OF VETERANS GROUPS. SEATS RESERVED FOR HOA HAO,
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CATHOLIC, AN QUANG BUDDHIST AND BAHAI REPRESENTATIVES REMAINED EMPTY. ONE CAO DAI LE QUANG TAN WHO DID NOT OFFICIALLY REPRESENT THE CAO DAI CHURCH AND A SCATTERING OF QUOC TU BUDDHIST AND PROTESTANT REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED. PARTY MEMBERS RANKED BY DISTRICT WARD AND SUBWARD FILLED ABOUT THREE FOURTHS OF THE STADIUM AND REACTED TO SPEECHES WITH THE PERFUNCTORY APPLAUSE CHARACTERISTIC OF DP INAUGURATIONS.

4. THE DEMOCRACY PARTY NOW HAS INAUGURATED 38 CHAPTERS, TEN MORE THAN REQUIRED UNDER DECREE LAW 060 AND HAS ESTABLISHED A SAIGON CHAPTER ANOTHER REQUIREMENT OF THE DECREE.
BUNKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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